Graduation Issue 1991

Musket

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Music teacher Sandra Peaslee directs the Lexington High School Mixed Chorus at the 25th annual Pops Night on Friday, May 24. Nearly every LHS music group performed at the gala event. See story page 2.

Photo by Jon Feldman

Senate Ends Busy Session

Elections held: Chang and Pitarys emerge victorious

by Will Eisner

The 1990-1991 Lexington High School Student/Faculty Senate recently completed an especially productive session. At the second meeting of the new session, Moderator Anjan Mukherjee and Secretary Palyn Hung were commended for their excellent services on the Executive Committee.

Elections for the 1991-1992 Executive Committee were held on May 22, juniors James Kvaal and Heidi Chang were chosen as new moderator and secretary, respectively.

Debate instructor Les Phillips was elected to the position of Assistant Moderator, which was held for the past two years by social studies teacher Sam Kafrissen.

The 1990-1991 session of the Senate produced many bills, spanning the full spectrum of school life. Among the most important of these bills was the Substitute Bill, which gave teachers of senior classes the right to cancel classes instead of having a substitute teacher.

The Substitute Bill was originally passed by the 1989-1990 Senate but was rejected by Principal David A. Wilson and the School Committee.

However, this year's Senate revised the bill so that it would be more acceptable to the School Committee. The Revised Substitute Bill was also vetoed by Wilson, but due to the dedicated work of many senators, the bill was accepted by the School Committee and is now being used on a trial basis in the school.

Another important and controversial bill generated by the Senate was the Assembly Bill, which gave the Senate the power to determine whether an assembly should be mandatory.

Ann Chang will be next year's senior class president.

Photo by Tina Granger

The bill, created partially in response to the annual, mandatory sophomore magazine drive, underwent several changes and clarifications before it was passed.

These alterations included an amendment that gave the administration the opportunity to call for a mandatory assembly in "emergency conditions."

This amendment was included so that the administration could call an assembly for all students in a genuine crisis, but left other situations to the discretion of the Senate.

The Senate also worked to encourage recycling at the school. The Social Action Committee's Recycling Bill, which stated that the Senate would start a campaign to encourage recycling by students, led the effort.

The campaign was waged through messages on the electronic bulletin board and informational posters and hand-outs.

General recycling awareness

Continued on page 2

LHS Dominates Science Fairs

by Bernadine Tsung

With 20 entrants, Lexington High School brought one of the largest delegations to this year's regional science fair at Somerville High School. The fair, held in April, provided competitors with a chance to qualify for the state fair, held annually at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The regional competition consisted of four hours of judging followed by an awards ceremony during which the forty highest-scoring entrants were invited to participate in statewide competition.

This year proved no exception to Lexington's winning tradition in regional competition. Although Lexington was not able to repeat last year's sweep of first, second, and third place, junior Seetha Ramnath and sophomore Rachel Kleinman did come away with second and third.

Ramnath, whose project was entitled, "A Safe Organic Pesticide?" later went on to represent the state in the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Orlando, Florida. Massachusetts's other representatives to the ISEF included Jeremy Stevenson of Masconomet Regional High School, the first-place winner at the Somerville fair.

As a state representative, Ramnath won an all-expense-paid, week-long trip to Orlando. With three days set aside for fair preparation and judging, Ramnath spent the rest of her week touring and participating in ISEF organized activities. Ramnath began her stay by attending opening ceremonies at the Lagoon in Walt Disney World.

> "It was enormously rewarding to see the type of achievement that is going on throughout the country."
>
> —Science Department Head Judy Masselam

Ramnath said of her experience, "The people there were incredible. They were all so nice and helpful."

During the day of judging, over 700 entrants from the United States and the rest of the world competed against each other. LHS science department head and science-fair coordinator Judy Masselam, who accompanied Ramnath to Florida, expressed disappointment regarding the scarcity of students from other countries.

Problems addressed by ISEF projects included finding a cure for Lyme disease, thwarting chaos, and calculating the effects of sunlight on leaf decomposition. Masselam stated, "It was enormously rewarding to see the type of achievement that is going on throughout the country."

Of the forty chosen from the regional fair to advance to state competition, nine were from LHS. Along with Ramnath and Kleinman, senior Anjan Mukherjee, juniors Diane Holland, Justin Sweder, Megan Doerr, Elbert Kuo and Mike Weigand, and sophomore Roopom Banerjee qualified to compete at MIT. Weigand, who couldn't attend the state fair due to a scheduling conflict, was replaced by junior Bernadine Tsung.

The forty-second Annual Massachusetts State Science Fair, held at MIT was a two-day event with seven hours of judging followed by three hours of public display. Overall, there were nearly four hundred students representing cities and towns from throughout the state.

Twenty first and second places, and thirty third places and honorable mentions were awarded at MIT. All nine of Lexington's entrants received awards.

Mukherjee, this year's grand prize winner at the local fair, repeated last year's first place, receiving a scholarship for $2,500. Ramnath and Kuo were also first place winners; both were awarded trips to summer science conferences.

A second-place award went to Tsung, who also received $200, and third places went to both Doerr and Banerjee. Kleinman, Sweder and Holland each were given an honorable mention.

Seven Faculty to Retire

by Matt Cole

Lexington High School teachers Aspasia Papanastassiou, Jack Schulz, George Carr, Jeanne Krochalis, and John Adams are retiring this year, along with the LHS nurse, Gilda Kunz. Librarian Kenneth Skinner intends to retire in September 1991.

Adams, who has been coordinator of the applied technology department in the Lexington School System for the past thirteen years and has taught at LHS for the past twenty-six, said, "I just felt it was time for me to change, and I'm young enough to do something else. I don't know what that will be yet," but he confided that the next year will probably see "a lot" of him on the golf course in Arizona, where he will be moving.

Several of the retirees plan to spend more time with their grandchildren. Kunz plans to open "a new chapter of my life," helping her daughter raise her family. Skinner also cited his young grandsons as primary reasons for his departure. He noted too, that, "I'm reaching the point in my life where [I want] to relax."

Two teachers, Schulz and Krochalis, halted work in the middle of the school year due to health problems. Schulz, in a return visit to one of his classes, compared teaching to major-league athletics, philosophizing that no one plays forever.

Skinner commented that he enjoys working with LHS students, most of whom are "interested and enthusiastic,...willing to work with the staff." Adams agreed, adding that he "enjoyed the teaching more than the administrating... [Administrating] has more frustrations than teaching."

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Inside

•**Names and Places 1991:** Annual survey of graduating seniors' post-high school plans. Pages 4 and 5:

•**New format for Springfest:** Two-day drama festival a showcase of 23 plays. Page 3.

Pops Concert Draws Record Crowds

by Angela Yin

The theme was Purple Paradise for the 25th annual Spring Pops Nights, a celebration of music, held on May 23 and 24. Light and dark purple streamers and balloons greeted the audience as it settled down for the end-of-the-year concert. Orchestra director Janet Haas exclaimed, "This year's Pops was one of the best I've seen in five years."

The jazzy ABCD quartet, led by senior Brian Lee, welcomed the audience with pre-concert music on both Thursday and Friday. The ensuing program featured the LHS Orchestra, Concert Band, Mixed and Freshman Choruses, Jazz and Wind Ensembles and four of Lexington's a cappella singing groups: the Madrigals, Pitchpipes, Shaken Not Stirred, and Euphonic Twelve.

To commemorate the silver anniversary of Pops, confetti covered the gray and purple table cloths accented by silver bottles filled with orchids. Fattening but delicious desserts were placed on the tables for all to enjoy.

On Thursday night, the gym was full, but on Friday, the almost unbearably hot gym was filled beyond capacity. The Friday heat caused a fire alarm to sound in the midst of the performance.

Highlights included the orchestra's performance of "Farewell to Lexington," which was composed by senior John Kramer, and junior Jon Palant's impressive conducting of one of the orchestral pieces, which earned a standing ovation on both nights.

"Camptown Races," sung by the Mixed Chorus, was a familiar tune that brought out smiles of enjoyment from the audience, and its finale from "The Gondoliers" was a true crowd-pleaser.

The award-winning Jazz Ensemble also had its share of time in the spotlight. During its performance, enthusiastic students and parents danced on the small space allotted for such activity.

The Concert Band finished the show with "Stars and Stripes Forever," bringing the roaring audience to its feet when the flag was lowered from the ceiling.

On Thursday evening, the 1500-dollar Joseph DiDomenico Scholarship was presented to senior Glenn Davis. The requirements for the award were that the student plan to major in music, be a student in good standing, and have given generously to the Lexington community and the music department. Few were surprised that Davis was awarded the scholarship, since he was last year's recipient of the Donald J. Gillespie Outstanding Junior award.

On Friday evening, the Gillespie award was given to Steven Cooley. Cooley has played several instruments in the band, including trumpet,sousaphone, and bass trombone.

The Outstanding Senior awards for band, chorus, and orchestra were also given on Friday evening. Dana Robertson, outstanding drummer for the band and Jazz Ensemble, was awarded the Concert Band award.

The orchestra award winner was cellist Holly Leopold, who has contributed to the orchestra since her freshman year. The Chorus award recipient, singer and composer John Kramer, has been involved with the choral program and the music department for four years. Peaslee said that it was a "thrill to give John Kramer the choral award."

Band Director Jeff Leonard added that he "could not say enough about [the recipient of the awards]. There aren't words to describe how much they have done."

Davis stated contemplatively and a bit sadly, "Musically, this has been the best Pops we've had. All the groups were doing well. I'm happy this is the way I'm ending my time at LHS." Leonard echoed his sentiments as he said that Pops went "beautifully, despite the fire alarm. [It was] one of the best since I've been here, on both nights."

Peaslee commented, "I thought it went really, really wonderfully. It was exciting to see the chorus really give a great performance." She also thought that the farewell gestures from the quartet and other groups were "fantastic."

Senior Justin Frazer, involved with the Jazz Ensemble, commented, "The music was very enjoyable. I got to see the talent the my friends have which I never knew they possessed...Pops is a big melting pot of talent."

Junior Deborah Haber, a chorus member, stated, "Pops is the music climax of every year," because, she explained, though the concert was more for the students, the town also got involved. Senior Evan Gerber also felt the it was "nice to give everyone one final chance to perform." Lara Ho, also a senior, said, "It is sad because it is the last concert. We're done with school and this is it."

The LHS Mixed Chorus sings one of its pieces at the annual Pops concert. Photo by Jon Feldman

Chang to be Senior Pres.

Continued from page 1

did increase in the school, and blue bins were added in all the rooms so that newspapers, cans, and colored paper could be recycled in addition to white paper.

The 1990-1991 Senate also had to deal with budget cuts facing the school system. Through the Budget Resolution, presented to the School Committee by Moderator Anjan Mukherjee, the Senate stated its opinions on where budget cuts should be made.

Also in the Senate news was the X-Block Resolution, and its accompanying X-Block Constitutional Amendment. The X-Block Resolution stated which activities would be allowed during X-Block. These activities included extra teaching, extra-help sessions, and non-mandatory club meetings.

The amendment was accepted by a schoolwide vote and will come into effect next year.

The Senate also passed the Substitute Evaluation Bill, which called for substitute teachers to be evaluated by one of their classes annually. This bill will come into effect next year.

On Frieday, May 17, schoolwide elctions were held. Junior Ann Chang was elected president of the senior class. Greg Pitarys was elected vice-president, and Keri Sarajian secretary. The results of a run-off election to determine senior class treasurer were not known at press time. The candidates were Elbert Kuo and Tina Granger.

Other elected class presidents were Corey Hendrickson for the junior class and Kate Olivier for the sophomore class.

Vice-president-elects were Kevin Clinton for the junior class and Liz Dubin for the sophomore class.

Next year's class secretaries are Jessica Holt for the junior class and Sara Ginns for the sophomore class.

Class treasurers for next year are Julie Coffin for the junior class and Paul Abbot for the sophomore class.

Senior Senators for next year are Gina Coplon, Heidi Chang, Jeremy Giller, James Kvaal, Doug Lucente, David Monaco, and Justin Sweder. Junior Senators include Andrew Blumsack, Will Eisner, Carrie Granger, Courtney Harter, Julie Havens, Matt Lippert, and Taryn Roeder. Sophomore Senators are Paul Abbot, Cara Antanucci, Natalie Berger, Tina Iyer, Katie Ludwig, and Kate Olivier.

Senior Class Council members for next year are Chad Bartels,Andrea Bettachi, Courtney Duff, Michael Gordon, Jasmin Keramaty, Ann Kim, Kim Kirkland, Sally Knapp, Andrew Kvaal, Paul Knight, Elisa Leone, Gerard Marino, Yolanda Scott, Justin Sweder, Colby Wilson, and Ethan Zohn.

Junior Class Council members for next year are Susan Arena, Michelle Conceison, Chris Consilvio, Becky Dennison, Lea Dimascio, Kelly Harrington, Kim Harter, Sangita Kuba, Heather Lannquist, Eric Lee, Bianca Mammola, Jocelyn Nill, Emily Orenstein, Nicole Scaramelli, Chris Sharkey, and Daniel Tenpas.

Sophomore Class Council members for next year are Melanie Armstrong, Cara Attanucci, Abby Crocker, Catherine Fraim, Meredith Freeman, Jani Groblewski, Vic Karkar, Katie Ludwig, Priscilla Merriam, Chantal Morel, Caleb Newman, Alexing Reiling, Ornella Rullo, Mark Stevens, Arpi Terzian, and Christine Yasaitis.

Seven to Retire

Continued from page 1

Kunz noted that, in addition to the pleasures of "trying to keep people well," there were some less enjoyable aspects of her job. During her 18 years at LHS, there have been deaths among students and staff and a number of suicide attempts. She said, "In a school like this, you're it. There's no doctor [to check your treatment]."

However, Kunz's work is usually less serious. She noted, "people do funny things to the skeleton" that hangs in her office. In addition to pointing arms and legs in all directions, some students have been more creative. When she entered the room, the student would be watching her expression. "They thought I'd get angry and I didn't; I just laughed."

Other teachers have seen modifications of one sort or another at LHS. When Skinner started work in 1968, the school library was about half of its current size, serving about twice the number of students. "Computers were unheard of," he said, and television "was all black and white."

On a sabbatical he took several years ago, Skinner had an opportunity to observe other school libraries, and he concluded that Lexington has "one of the best school libaries going," although he admitted "some were a little better in [certain] resources."

Adams spoke on a more general topic. "I'd like to see the end of the budget cuts. The school itself is becoming less comprehensive, more elitist, as 'enrichment' programs are cut," he commented.

Kunz had a parting message for the students: "Always strive for the top. If you don't make it, the second rung is just as good, but strive for the top...There's a place for every one in this world."

On Friday, May 31, a "Gala Reception and Dinner" was heldin honor of the seven retirees, according to a memo circulated by social studies teacher Mary Gillespie.

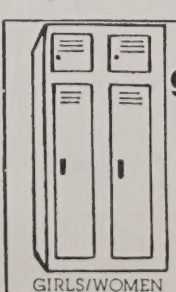
Acting Supt. Chosen

by Jeremy Giller

On Tuesday, May 28, the Lexington School Committee selected Richard H. Barnes to assume the superintendency of the Lexington Public Schools on an acting basis, beginning July 1. Barnes has been assistant superintendent for personnel and administration over the past two-and-a-half years.

Current Superintendent of Schools Philip E. Geiger will vacate his position on June 30, 1991 to assume a superintendency in New Jersey. Barnes will serve until June 30, 1992, at which time a permanent superintendent will take over. Barnes said that he will not be a candidate for the permanent position.

Barnes has been an employee of the Lexington School System for nearly 30 years. Originally, in 1959, Barnes was a teacher at Harrington Elementary School. He has since held several positions, including director of planning and research; administrative assistant for personnel; and, most recently, assistant superintendent for personnel and administration, a post Geiger created in 1988.



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Springfest a Dramatic Experiment

by Young-Ho Yoon

The LHS Drama Club recently presented Springfest, the annual drama festival event at LHS, which took place on May 17 to 18. A medley of 23 plays, Springfest was an opportunity for students to direct and act in plays.

This year, the Drama Club decided to open Springfest to all submitted plays instead of selecting a few. This change allowed students new to the theater to participate with veteran actors and directors.

Originally, it was feared that there would be tension between the more experienced theater people and novices, but the two groups generally found themselves helping and supporting one another.

Senior Eric Adler, director of one play and actor in several others, noted that the new format "gave more people a chance to be in [Springfest], and in that sense, it was very successful. Many plays went very well." Junior Brendan Salmond, an actor in two plays, agreed, adding, "There was a nice integration between novices and experienced people."

The expanded Springfest format posed some organizational difficulties, but many of the participants felt that Springfest went relatively smoothly, with a "festival atmosphere," as sophomore actress Sylvia Sellers phrased it, not a chaotic one. However, there still were complaints that revenues were lower with this new format because of little publicity.

An unexpected organizational complication that arose during Springfest was the excess of time between plays caused by over-estimates of play length. Sellers commented, "I think that when you do a performance, in general it usually goes faster in front of an audience [than in rehearsals.] It was the first time some of these plays were performed in front of an audience, and so they went a little faster than expected."

Seniors Justin Frazer and Mark Lavalle as Beidey Batey and Cecil Murmur, character actors and comedians, distracted the audience during intermissions, even when the two found themselves with twice the amount of time they had expected. Joined by Eric Adler and several others, they entertained the audience with skits like "Beidey and Cecil's Melodrama" and "Redneck Re-enactments," question-and-answer sessions with the audience, and sometimes, nothing more than their improvisational ability. They proved invaluable to many of the participants in Springfest by keeping audience impatience at bay and providing preparation time for the actors backstage.

The sheer length of Springfest also presented some problems, both to the audience and to the participants. Adler was troubled by the time schedule, technical troubles, and difficulty in setting up rehearsals because of the number of people. Also, many potential audience members were discouraged from attending because they mistakenly thought that they had to attend all of Springfest, not just the plays they wanted to see. At the other end of the scale, many audience members came for only one play. These two factors accounted for a relatively small audience, but Salmond was quick to point out that "for a small audience, though, they were good."

Springfest included original plays by junior Angela Delichatsios, freshman Sarah Francis, junior Kurt Langer, junior Eugene Mirman, senior Mike Ouyang, and senior Katie Ravich. These plays attracted the attention of Peter Maeck, a professional playwright, who came to LHS on May 28 to offer his critiques of the original plays.

Springfest also featured rap performances by Charles Williams, the Strike MC, and his Top Choice MC's, dancers and fellow rappers. The Top Choice MC's dazzled the audience with their flashy dancing and acrobatic moves while Williams rapped away on the mike with original songs like "Prime Time" and "A Special Thanks."

Mia (junior Jennie-Sue Walsh) struggles to escape the clutches of Ben (senior Evan Gerber) in LHS graduate Melissa Feldman's "Common Knowledge."
Photo by Jon Feldman

First Annual Chamber Music Concert Awes Local Audience

by Viviane Chao

The LHS Woodwind Quintet, a clarinet duet, and a woodwind nonet all performed at the first annual Lexington High School Chamber Music Concert, held at the Follen Community Church. Reaction towards the performance was positive from both the listeners and the musicians.

Junior David Berger, who performed in all three groups, enthusiastically exclaimed, "It was great, probably the best concert of the year." Walter Pavasaris, Lexington's coordinator of fine arts, commented, "The caliber of music at this concert was extremely high. The performances were all very good; the repertoire selected was challenging and of a very high quality."

Jeffrey Leonard, LHS music teacher and chamber coach for the woodwind nonet, was very impressed with the concert. "This is not music which is usually associated with a high school level; their attempt to play it is impressive, but their succeeding in it is very exciting." Leonard commented that the small audience was fitting because it created an intimate setting, saying, "This was one of the most elegant concerts that the music department has sponsored all year."

> "This was one of the most elegant concerts that the music department has sponsored all year."
>
> —music teacher Jeffrey Leonard

Bassoonist Ira Pedlikin, a junior, commented that the concert "was a memorable experience because it was the first chamber music concert of its kind; the pieces we chose were unlike our usual selections, but the paltry audience detracted from [the concert] as a whole."

The LHS String Quintet, which had been unable to play at the chamber concert, performed on May 19, also at the Follen Church. Also appearing on the program were the LHS Madrigals, the LHS Woodwind Quintet and the LHS Collegium.

In addition, the concert marked the premiere performance of "Jazz Suite for Two Bassoons," composed by Sandra Peaslee of the LHS music department and performed by senior Glenn Davis and Pedlikin. Both Davis and Pedlikin were very pleased to have a composition written for them, especially because jazz duets are not found in a bassoonist's standard repertoire.

When asked about the concert, Helen Chang, the first violinist of the string quintet, remarked, "This was a very good program because it reflected many of the talents of Lexington High School musicians; it displayed a wide variety of instruments and styles of music."

The audience was considerably larger than that of the previous concert. One parent said, "The entire concert was very good, but I was particularly struck by Helen Chang's playing. It was absolutely beautiful from the stroke of the first bow." Another spectator said, "It is rare to be able to see such ability in high school students. These concerts are a wonderful way of showcasing young talent."

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Names and Places 1991

-A-

Tissa Abedinejad	Brown University
Dan Abraham	Boston University
Eric D. Adler	Connecticut College
Jeffrey Aizley	Brandeis University
Matthew W. Allen	Bridgeton Academy
David Alperovich	
Sivan R. Alpert	University of Rhode Island
Mark A. Angelo	Bryant College
Gregory D. Ansin	Berklee College of Music
Derek Armstrong	Bowdoin College
Darrell R. Ashmanskas	University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Prashant Aswani	junior college in California

-B-

Iain Babeu	undecided
Thomas J. Baker	Le Moyne College
Lisa M. Barilone	going to California
Bryan D. Barnes	Kansas University
Christopher M. Barry	Fitchburg State College
Marielle S. Beauchemin	Regis College
Brian S. Belfer	Ithaca College
Robert F. Benoit	Westfield State College
Eric R. Berger	Bentley College
Alison H. Berry	University of Vermont
Sujata N. Bhatia	Boston University
Trevor Billouin	Newbury College
Jessica L. Bloom	Amherst College
Natosha Blount	Northeastern University
Andrew W. Bond	University of Texas at Austin
Michael Robert Bowes	taking a year off
Cameron Boyd	taking a year off
Anna M. Brandenburg	Carleton College
Koresha Braxton	Framingham State College
Kelly Q. Brennan	Champlain College
Matthew O. Breslin	New England College
Jacob Tupper Brown	Trinity College
Zoltan Brutler	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Todd R. Bryan	Bridgewater State College/Air Force
Louis Bullard	College of the Holy Cross
Sandra Burke	Roger Williams College

-C-

Nicole G. Campisi	Merrimack College
Eoin F. Cannon	Dartmouth College
Dayna N. Carruthers	Middlesex Community College
Erin K. Casey	Merrimack College
Susan Catterall	College of the Holy Cross
Lia V. Centrella	St. Michael's College
Paul A. Centrella	College of the Holy Cross
Helen L. Chang	Curtis Institute of Music
Li-Wen Cheng	New York University
Buquet Cinkilic	University of Lowell
Amy B. Clark	Westfield State College
Laura M. Clowe	Wheaton College
Victoria J. Cobuzzi	
Peter D. Cohen	Bowdoin College
Adrienne E. Colby	Smith College
Ronah Corcoran	returning to Germany
Kimberly S. Cramer	Union College
Shaun H. Creager	undecided
Chad A. Crogan	Westfield State College
Meredith Culhane	Connecticut College

-D/E/F-

Gregory R. D'Agostino	Roger Williams College
Carol L. D'Antuono	Springfield College
Glenn M. Davis	Harvard University
Peter W. DeBonte	working
Noel Jermaine Deas	Cazenovia College
Matthew C. DeFronzo	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Angela Delichatsios	Harvard University
Andrea E. Denk	Southeastern Massachusetts University
Anthony W. Desimone	University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Keri Devon	Wellesley College
Christina Dimantopolous	Wheelock College
Matthew Diamond	Clark University
Orietta DiGiacomo	University of Lowell
William A. Diianni	Boston College
Steven R. DiPietro	Ithaca College
Luke Donnellan	
Jonathan M. Dress	Bryant College
Leo Dreyfus	Northeastern University
Brian K.Driscoll	Tufts University
David C. Duffy	Boston College
Ethan R. Ehrenberg	Swarthmore College
Sarah J. Enman	Boston University
Rosalie A. Ezekiel	Barnard College/ballet company
Eric E. Fahey	Salem State College
Renee Ferguson	
Antonia H. R. Ferrier	living in Europe for a year
Sara K. Fertitta	Syracuse University
Alison L. Fields	Colby College
Jonathan R. Fish	University of Michigan
Patrick G. Fitzgerald	Bryant College
Edward M. Fitzpatrick	Dartmouth College
Nicole Flynt	Virginia State University
Michael P. Foss	Wentworth College
Justin E. Frazer	Skidmore College
Julie E. Fresina	Ithaca College
Heidi R. Friedlander	Columbia University
Yuli Friedman	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
David M. Frohman	Massachusetts Institute of Technology

-G/H-

David A. Galehouse	Marquette University
Brian L. Galloway	Northeastern University
Kim Galvin	Boston College
Bradley J. Gelling	University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Evan Gerber	Brandeis University
Catherine R. Gill	Welleseley College
Jennifer Glantz	Syracuse University
Nigel Glover	McGill University
Sean P. Gnecco	Tufts University
Shayne R. Goldberg	New England College
Jonathan D. Goldblatt	Columbia University
Scott Goldstein	marine corps
Trelawney W. Goodell	Bowdoin College
Jennifer L. Goodwin	Fairfield University
William M. Graham	
Sarah Granville	University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Melissa Kay Green	
William J. Green	Rollins College
Marc A. Greenberg	Ithaca College
Kristin A. Grosshans	Boston College
Tammy E. Hadley	Framingham State College
Jonathan Hamel	Suffolk University
Susan D. Handwerker	University of Lowell
Sybil C. Harcourt	Skidmore College
Cindy A. Harrington	University of Maine at Orono
Emily A. Harris	Barnard College
Rosalind Harris	
Elisabeth A. Heitman	University of New Hampshire
Claire L. Hewick	Elon College
Annika S. Hipple	Middlebury College
Lara S. Ho	Harvard University
Charles C. Holetz	
Conan L. Hom	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Nicholas I. Horton	University of California at Santa Cruz
Jon Huerta	Colby College
Ellen D. Hughes	Salisbury State
Palyn P. Hung	Harvard University
Sarah M. Hutchinson	Emory University
Rebekka L. Hutton	undecided
Stephen M. Hwang	Massachusetts Institute of Technology

-I/J/K-

Pheap S. Ith	
Sarah Jacobs	returning to boarding school
Matthew Jemison	Clark University
Laura Jodoin	Middlesex Community College
Amy Johansen	Salem State College
Daniel N. Johnson	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Michael Johnson	University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Stephanie A. Johnson	University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Jennifer Johovich	
Robert A .Jones	Massachusetts College of Art
Arzhang Kamarei	Harvard University
Leslie M. Katz	Wesleyan University
Diana Kelley	Nichols College
Patricia Ann Kelley	Worcester State College
Michael T. Kennedy	University of Vermont
Joey C. Key	University of Massachusetts at Amherst
John J. Kiladis	Babson College
Daiva Kiliulis	Fitchburg State College
Nancy Kim	Harvard University
Yung K. Kim	Gordon College
Kristine Kinney	Framingham State College
John B. Kissell	Bates College
Linda Frances Klemm	Massachusetts Bay Community College
Jenifer T. Kline	Syracuse University
Andy Kolokythas	Northeastern University
John Kramer III	Bates College
Tamara E. Kress	American University
Ruth Krieger	Columbia University
Jin Y. Kwon	Wellesley College
Sooin Kwon	Tufts University

-L-

Aaron Lacharité	Berklee School of Music
Darren M. Lamoretti	Rochester Institute of Technology
Jennifer L. Lancaster	Syracuse University
George B. Landman	College of the Holy Cross
Jennifer M. Lang	University of New Hampshire

Names and Places 1991

Philip M. Langone	Merrimack College
Douglas Larson	Tufts University
Mark D. Lavalle	taking a year off
Maureen Leahy	University of Vermont
Brian Po-Min Lee	Harvard University
David Lee	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Karen A. Lee	Brown University
Michael Zachary Lee	undecided
Hollister J. Leopold	Dartmouth College
Melinda Lester	Tufts University
Danit Levy	Trinity College
Deborah J. Levy	Mount Ida College
Michael Scott Levy	University of Vermont
Winnie Liang	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Stacey B. Liederman	Tufts University
Meredith A. Loomis	Boston College
Anna W. Lowder	Colby College
Christopher Luzzo	Boston University

-M-

Judith A. Macarthur	Northeastern University
Stacie J. Macdonald	Burdett School
Trish Macleod	working/art classes
Oren Y. Mael	Johnson & Wales University
Lisa A. Mandis	Union College
Mark V. Manfredi	Worcester Academy
Kerry A. Maraj	
Angela M. Marino	University of Lowell
Concetta M. Marino	University of Lowell
Veronica E. Marino	Middlesex Community College
Linda E. Mark	Pennsylvania State University
Bradley C. Martin	Cushing Academy
Jeffrey C. Martin	Babson College
Carolina Martinez-Tamayo	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
William Marvin	Wentworth College
Priya Mathur	Connecticut College
Tara Mathur	undecided
Kerin L. McArthur	Fairfield University
Kerin N. McCauley	Boston College
Matthew McCormack	Syracuse University
Keith A. McDonald	University of New Haven
Kathleen M. McGirr	University of California at Santa Barbara
Mark A. McKearney	Florida Atlantic University
Joanna K. McMenimen	Salve Regina — the Newport College
Lisa A. McMurphy	Syracuse University
Latisha McQueen	Auburn University
Andrew M. McWeeney	Massachusetts. Maritime Academy
Michelle L. Medas	Mount Ida College
Srinivasu Meka	Albion College
Melissa H. Mills	Providence College
Gregory M. Miminos	
William M. Mobilia	North Adams State College
Jeffrey R. Monaco	University of New Hampshire
Carrie A. Monks	Kimball Union Academy
Sebastien M. J. Morel	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Danielle Morey	Bay State Community College
Anjan Mukherjee	Harvard University

-N/O/P-

Anjali Nagpaul	University of Virginia
Kyona Nason	University of King's College
Amanda L. Neale	Syracuse University
Leigh Ann Niland	Quinnipiac College
Ashley G. Nill	Middlebury College
Kenneth K. L. Niu	University of Chicago
Dror Niv	University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Scott J. Oberholtzer	Ithaca College
Rebecca A .O'Brien	Tulane University
Katherine E. O' Sullivan	Trinity College
Sheila M. O'Toole	undecided
Michael Ouyang	working/Wesleyan University
Jason Paige	working
Adia A. Palladino	undecided
Julie A. Parker	Wheelock College
Lauren Pihlgren	Brandeis University
Mallory B. Plukas	Wheaton College
Rebecca R. Portnay	Brandeis University

-Q/R-

Anne E. Quinn	Dartmouth College
Michael Radz	Brown University
Katherine Ravich	Bard College
Christopher J. Ray	Wheaton College
Melanie E. Reczek	
Agnieszka Reiss	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
R. Eric Reuss	Tufts University
Kenneth W. Richards	Cornell University
Dana A. Robertson	Berklee College of Music
Marta Rodriguez	college in Spain
Andrew J. Romero	Colorado University
Linda S. Roos	Washington University
Adam S. Rosenberg	Tulane University
Janelle A. Roth	Westfield State College
Melissa Jo Rudnick	Union College
Jennifer Russell	Endicott College
James P. Rycroft	University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Petra Rydlova	George Washington University

-S/T-

Albert Santamaria	Bentley College
Stephanie Santin	undecided
J. Brian Santucci	Skidmore College
Annika Sarin	Boston University
Nicole T. Saxonis	Worcheter State College
Adam R. Schaye	Trinity College
Stefan Schick	Brown University
David P. Schindler	traveling/Brandeis University
Jonathan P. Schmidt	Boston College
Darryl L. Shanks	undecided
Patricia A. Sheehy	University of Pennsylvania
Nathan R. Shnidman	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Trey J. Shores	Hawaii Loa College
Edward A. Single	Ohio State
Kara Smith	Baylor University
Danyel R. Snell	Regis College
Carol Sohn	Harvard University
Ilya Somin	Amherst College
Rodney Soparkar	Kent State University
Yolanda S. Sovie	Northeastern University
Julie D. Spector	Johnson & Wales University
Vincent F. Spierto II	Mercyhurst College
J. Chad Stabers	undecided
Rebecca J. E. Stetz	University of London
Michael K. Stringer	American University
Jason R. Stupp	Daniel Webster College
Tiffany Suglia	Boston University
Christopher P. Sullivan	Plymouth State
Colleen W. Sullivan	Laboure College
James M. Sullivan	
Hilary M. Swanson	Lehigh University
Paul W. Tedesco	Trinity College
John R. Tedrow	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Karen L. Tercho	McGill University
Julia Thompson	University of New Hampshire
Debie Titus	Wellesley College
Tanya N. Todtenkopf	University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Jennifer E. Trodella	Tufts University
Patrick A. Tullman	University of Vermont
Yeh-Jiun Tung	Massachusetts Institute of Technology

-U/V/W-

Melanie L. Undem	University of Rochester
Armine Vorperian	undecided
Sheila M. Walsh	College of the Holy Cross
Aaron Washington	Rochester Institute of Technology
Timothy D. Weaver	Dartmouth College
Julienne Webster	New York University
Gregory P. Weeks	Ithaca College
Thomas C. Westfall	Sarah Lawrence College
Michelle White	Bay State Junior College
Rashedia M. White	Johnson & Wales University
Josselyn R. Whiteside	Syracuse University
Carolyn E. Whyte	University of Massachusetts at Amherst
John M. Wichmann	Georgia Tech University
Bryan A. Williams	Cornell University
Christopher Williams	Emory University
Elviege Williams	
Jon M. Winchell	taking a year off
Heidi Marie Winter	Middlesex Community College
Eric Wintersteen	Franklin Institute
Corey A. Witherspoon	American University
Ching Hsin Wong	University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Christopher Wong	Stanford University
Karen A. Wood	Bentley College
Charlotte S. Woodbridge	undecided
Rachel L. Woodbury	undecided

-Y/Z-

Shana L. Yansen	Stanford University
Peter J .Yerardi Jr.	Westfield State College
Angela A. Yin	Wellesley College
Brian S. Zabin	Trinity College
Jeffrey D. Zahn	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Shamsunnahar Zaman-Syeda	undecided
Kristina L. Zani	Colby-Sawyer College
Richard R. Zeoli	University of Vermont
Michael Zeylikman	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Musket *made several attempts to reach every graduate. We regret any inadvertant errors.*

Compiled by Susan Catterall and Angela Yin

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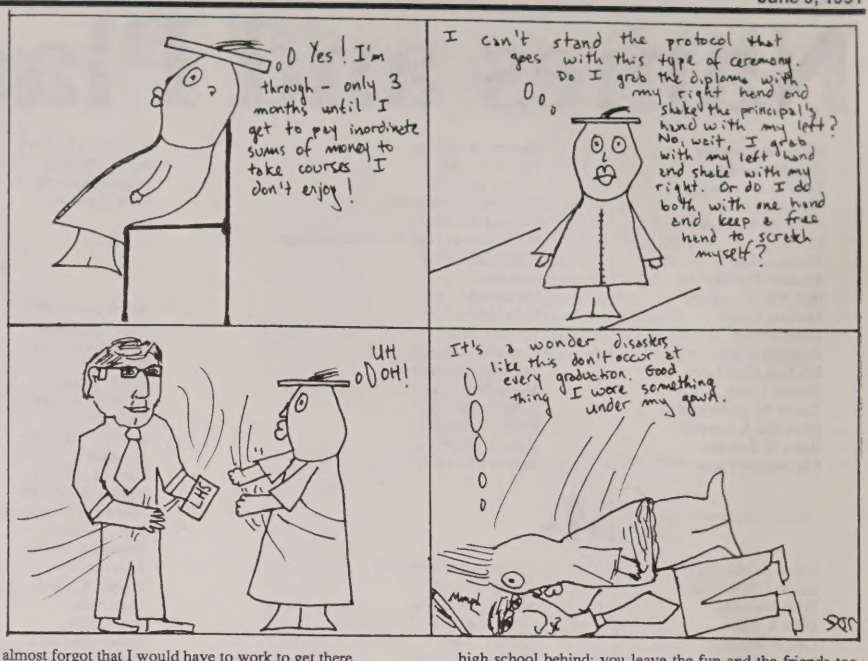
Departing LHS is Not Just Pomp


Yes! I'm through - only 3 months until I get to pay inordinate sums of money to take courses I don't enjoy!
I can't stand the protocol that goes with this type of ceremony. Do I grab the diploma with my right hand and shake the principal's hand with my left? No, wait, I grab with my left hand and shake with my right. Or do I do both with one hand and keep a free hand to scratch myself?
UH OH!
It's a wonder disasters like this don't occur at every graduation. Good thing I wore something under my gown.

Being a senior is not all that it's cut out to be. Our departing days are designed to celebrate the long-awaited end to a four years most people consider to have been full of pitfalls. The year ends with the pomp of the prom, the waving of the blue-and-gold at graduation, the constant "I'll bet you're happy it's over," and the now kinder and gentler words of administrators who were once busy pulling us out of class to award us with detentions. All of this is meant to celebrate the culmination of four long years, but instead, the gaiety surrounding this very difficult time serves to cheapen the experience as a whole.

It would be difficult to imagine that even one senior finds the thought of leaving high school quite as joyous as the end-of-the-year festivities makes it out to be. For most graduating seniors, of course, there are many concluding events about which to get excited. Some were counting those last few days of a class with that particularly annoying teacher, or of mandatory competition in an awkward game in gym class, or of dull blocks in a less than exciting course. But the excitement is tempered with sadness about change: the thought of leaving Mom, Dad, and the white picket fence, or anxiety over that last-minute college decision which may very well dictate the rest of your life. Maybe it's just the sadness in realizing that those people — some close friends and some just faces — who have been there almost every day will suddenly, at the count of three, scatter across America until some cheesy reunion brings some of them back together.

Strangely enough, I remember clearly the first day of my senior year. It was odd being the oldest in school, having no one to look up to or to gawk at, having only younger people around, some of whom seemed far too young on that first day. It seemed that the seniors would naturally have to fill that leadership role and that the teachers who were so excited about us made it seem like we were something special. Then reality set in. All those courses that last March seemed entirely reasonable for even a slumping senior seemed to require a lot more than mere coasting. Like a lot of seniors, I suppose, I started off my last year of high school thinking about the end as a time of rejoicing. I almost forgot that I would have to work to get there.

Then there was the college decision. The application process wasn't really all that bad; the trouble began after the initial rapture or rejection came in the mail and the decision had to be made about where your next four years would be spent. It was easy to fill out an entire application and not really know who it was you were describing in the essay. But when you had to pick a place where the person who wrote the essay would be happy for four years, then suddenly you were a gutted shell that wouldn't fit in anywhere. Walking around a strange campus, looking for people that are even remotely like you, you inevitably ended up alone. A week later, the decision was made with a virtual flip of a coin — better academics on one side, better people on the other — and now you have to go there and try things out.

You can't just leave all the work and the hard times of high school behind; you leave the fun and the friends too. I'm not so much worried about never seeing my best friends again, because I know that no matter what it takes I'll keep in touch with them, it's more leaving all those people that I just sort of know, who I maybe say "hi" to. Never again will anything or anyone bring all the people back together in the same way or be able to reconstruct high school. There won't be that five minutes between A- and B-Blocks when you give a high-five to that guy you see once a day, or that daily free block when a certain old buddy from elementary school sits with you in C-House and talks while you're trying to do homework for next block; there won't be that class in which you and the guy sitting next to you spend the entire time choosing the prettiest girl in the room. Also, there are all the things you can do in high school that you might never be able to do again. In college, what if being just a mediocre actor, singer, or athlete won't get you the part you want or even allow you to make the team? What if you don't turn out to be as cool as you thought you were high school?

The other thing that's kind of strange is the thought that things will go on without us. I always thought about my particular four-year progression from freshman to senior and never about the fact that countless generations have done the same before me. I always thought that our class was somehow special or different, but it's not. To think that a certain Latin teacher will go on enjoying and inspiring the kids in classes next year just as he did with us is somewhat humbling. To think that the rather unique English teacher of this year will go on using the same crackpot analogies to food for many classes to come, as he probably did for many classes before us, makes one feel, to say the least, "un-special." The most frightening thing about leaving Lexington High School is being forgotten.

—Ethan Ehrenberg

Letters to the Editor

Former Editorials Editor Discusses Resignation

To the Editor:

I have decided to resign as Editorials Editor of the *Musket* and I feel it is important that the readers of this publication know my reasons for doing so. Essentially, I am leaving my position because I believe that the Editors-in-Chief of the *Musket*, despite their many achievements, have violated the principle of freedom of speech, to which all newspapers, this one included, owe their very existence.

They did this by refusing to publish an editorial I originally wrote for the March 22, 1991 issue of the *Musket*. My editorial dealt with the treatment of drug use and suicide in the school curriculum, especially in Life Skills classes. In brief, I argued that the current curriculum fails to provide a balanced account of these issues by ignoring the possibility that individuals have a right to control their own bodies and commit suicide or use drugs if they so desire. Instead, the curriculum assumes that such actions are immoral and should be prevented through the use of coercion. I further noted that the school should not seek to turn students into accomplices of current policy by urging them to report friends who were "suicidal" or possibly using drugs.

When I originally presented my editorial to Dena Weinstein and Jeremy Giller, the Editors-in-Chief, they made a number of technical objections to it, which I agreed to rectify. More importantly, however, they argued that publishing my editorial would be "irresponsible" because my point of view was "out of the mainstream" and because my editorial might convince a student to commit suicide, even though I never urged anyone to kill himself, merely stating that people who wished to do so had a right.

These objections are, essentially, objections to the principle of freedom of speech itself. Any article on a controversial issue can be misinterpreted in the way that it was suggested mine could be. By the Editors'-in-Chief analysis, an editorial defending the right of Nazis to hold demonstrations would have to be banned for fear that an actual Nazi march might take place as a result. Applying this standard, we would have to censor the works of such giants of Western thought as Jean-Paul Satre and Friedrich Nietszche, both of whom are among the many philosophers who have written in defense of suicide.

The principle of freedom of speech rests on the assumption that there is a difference between a written (or verbal) justification of a particular action and the action itself. In the unlikely event that a student did commit suicide as a result of my editorial, that would not be my responsibility or that of the *Musket*. It would be solely his own. Moreover, his suicide can only be considered a morally repugnant act if we assume that the point of my editorial, which argued that people have a right to take their own lives, is wrong. Surely it is not fair to judge an opinion on the basis of a standard which assumes it to be incorrect beforehand.

The Editors-in-Chief also justified their refusal to publish my work by calling it "extreme." Although I could point to many eminent philosophers and social scientists who have made arguments similar to my own, it is more important to consider the fact that "extreme" opinions have just as much right to be heard as "mainstream" ones, even in a high school setting. The opinions of Karl Marx and Ralph Waldo Emerson, among many others, are also "extreme" by modern American standards. Yet we study them in history and literature classes.

When I resubmitted my editorial for the May 14 issue of the *Musket*, after having corrected most of its purely technical flaws, it was rejected once again. The only coherent reason that the Editors-in-Chief could give for their decision was that they were "uncomfortable" with what I had written. I can well understand and respect the fact that they may have strongly held opinions on this issue which conflict with my own and that this difference of opinion could cause "discomfort." however, "discomfort" does not justify censorship.

It could be argued that my superiors had a right to act as they did because they have supreme authority over the *Musket*. While there is some validity to this, it should be remembered that they are editors of the newspaper, not its owners. Their authority has been granted by the school for the purpose of covering school news and providing a forum for differing opinions on educational issues. Since the *Musket* is the only public outlet for student opinions, the exclusion of particular points of view from it undermines free debate and goes against the purpose of the *Musket*. The *Musket*'s Editors should not use their authority in a way contrary to the purpose for which that authority was granted in the first place.

Ultimately, the fate of my specific editorial is not a matter of vital importance. But the principle of freedom of speech definitely is. I cannot continue to serve on the editorial board of a newspaper which fails to respect this fundamental democratic value.

Sincerely yours,
Ilya Somin

Editor's Note:

In his letter, Mr. Somin inaccurately portrays the role of Musket*'s editors in chief. It is the editors' right and responsibility to make the final decision regarding what material will be published in each issue of* Musket. *The editors are obligated to print, as text of the paper, only what amounts to "responsible journalism," through the criteria that they themselves set. In the editors' judgment, Mr. Somin's editorial did not meet these criteria.*

The "public outlet" that Mr. Somin discusses is provided through "letters to the editor," not through editorials that bear the official sanction of Musket. *Our very printing of the above letter reaffirms* Musket*'s belief in printing those letters that are not obscene, libelous, or disruptive to the High School's learning process.*

Musket *thanks Mr. Somin for his contributions to the newspaper over the past two years but stands by its editorial decision in this matter.*

Musket

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The opinions expressed on these editorial pages are the views of either the *Musket* editorial board or of individual staff members. They are not necessarily a reflection of school policy, nor are they intended to mirror the ideas of every student. Therefore, *Musket* realizes its responsibility to print other opinions. Leave short, tasteful letters to the editor in the *Musket* mailbox in the LHS Student Activities Center. Only signed letters will ordinarily be printed. *Musket* reserves the right to edit for length.

Now is Time to Learn From the Geiger Years

Three weeks from today, the Lexington School System and its superintendent, Philip E. Geiger, will go their separate ways. It is not, however, presumptuous to state that to some extent they have been doing so ever since Dr. Geiger first arrived in Lexington, in the summer of 1988.

Dr. Geiger's battles within the school system have been well-documented, and they need not be rehashed here, except to note that he and Lexington were just not meant for each other. The superintendent's abrasive style, his seeming unwillingness to look before he leaped, caused great friction between him and the faculty. By abruptly changing the High School's administrative structure in the fall of 1988, by calling teaching a "60 percent job on the clock," by placing numerous "letters of reprimand" in teachers' personnel files, Dr. Geiger failed to examine the implications of his words and actions.

The faculty also contributed to the contentious atmosphere of the last three years. Once Dr. Geiger was labeled a "bad guy," he could do nothing right in the teachers' eyes. Taking a public "no confidence" vote in the superintendent after Dr. Geiger's first year and venting frustration in the middle of classes undoubtedly did more harm tha good.

It is one thing to disrespect someone privately, but to do so publicly discourages any reconciliation. The faculty often criticized Dr. Geiger for committing precisely the same act — attempting to draw public sentiment to his side by working it against the faculty's side.

* * *

As Dr. Geiger's tenure draws to a close, the search process for a new superintendent will soon be underway, and with it the opportunity to define exactly what we want:

someone whose qualities are more in tune with what the system needs than were Dr. Geiger's. The decision regarding a new superintendent will be especially crucial. With both fiscal problems and average teacher age increasing, Lexington's next superintendent will play a pivotal role in the system's future. Programs will again be called into question, teacher layoffs will again be an issue, and spending priorities will be of utmost importance.

To discover the characteristics that we want in our next superintendent, might it not be helpful to examine and learn from the Geiger experience? Some things are readily apparent. The leader must be willing to listen and discuss before acting. He must also include others in decision-making more than Dr. Geiger has done. At the same time, it should not be concluded from the Geiger years that all proposed change is bad. In fact, change from the humdrum of conventionalism can be entirely beneficial and new ideas will be increasingly necessary in times of fiscal constraint. We must, however, come to a consensus concerning the proposed changes, and those changes should be implemented gradually only after comprehensive discussion and debate.

The new superintendent must also arrive with a healthy respect for the teaching profession. That respect commands respect is a lesson that Dr. Geiger never understood. Expertise in business can take one only so far — the true business of any school system must be education. Such an approach should enable the superintendent to foster a good relationship with the faculty and students, who can then concentrate more fully on education.

Probably the most difficult of all tasks for a Lexington superintendent is the weighing of consituent groups' interests. Dr. Geiger often failed to see the "big picture," a mistake the next superintendent must avoid. The superintendent must be strong enough in his beliefs not to be easily swayed by special interest groups; he must have a strong enough character not to appease the groups solely to gain support. He must also be flexible enough to surrender when he realizes that he is in error.

Finally, the superintendent must move to change the fearful, antagonistic atmosphere that has developed in the past three years to one conducive to open debate, discussion, and mutual decision-making. This indeed appears to be the direction in which the school system, with its new site-based management philosophy, is moving.

Lexington's next superintendent will surely have a difficult task, and so too will the committee that selects him. Let us demand that the decision be made only after a long and hard study. Three more divisive years would be disastrous to the Lexington School System — most importantly, to those being educated. A year from now, it will be too late to learn our lessons from the Philip E. Geiger years. If we, as a community, can't learn our lessons now, future Lexington students may not have the luxury of learning theirs.

—Jeremy Giller

Awards

Foreign Language

The Lexington High School Foreign Language Department awarded certificates to fifty-eight students for outstanding effort and achievement in foreign language study and to thirty-four students for superior performance on the national language examinations. The awards ceremony, held on Tuesday evening, May 14, in the D House Foreign Language Center, was attended by more than 250 people.

Catherine Gill, Annika Hipple, and Carolina Marinez-Tamayo earned special departmental awards for outstanding academic achievement in the study of foreign languages.

Palyn Hung and Seth Theriault earned departmental distinction for their contributions to the foreign language program as a whole.

Palyn Hung was the recipient of the second annual Jenanyan Memorial Scholarship, created in memory of French teacher Raphael Jenanyan, who died two years ago after a 25 year career in the Lexington Public Schools. The scholarship honors a student who has shown enthusiasm for French language and culture, has manifested a positive and cooperative spirit as a student, and has been an active participant in the extra curricular life of the French program.

Mathematics

The annual Mathematics Awards Night was held on Monday, June 3 in J-House cafeteria. The LHS mathematics department participated in a number of national competitions this school year, with many students' performances among the top in the nation.

Level I finalists in the Massachusetts Association of Mathematics Leagues Olympiad Competition (MAML) were Andrew Brecher, Li-Wen Cheng, Yuli Friedman, Anjan Mukherjee, Kenny Shei, Carol Sohn, John Tedrow, and Jonathan Weinstein. Both Brecher and Weinstein advanced to Level II, receiving sixth place and thirteenth place in Massachusetts.

Brecher, Friedman, and Sohn were high-scoring students in the Greater Boston Mathematics League, leading the team to the 1991 North Division Championship and third place overall.

Brecher was also the top junior in the Massachusetts Mathematics League (MML), while Sohn was the second senior in the league. The LHS math team was runner-up in this year's competition.

At the Bentley College Programming Competition, the team of Brecher, Dan Johnson, and Gregory Pitarys won first place, beating out more than forty other teams from across New England.

Merit Scholarships

This year's National Merit Scholarship award-winners are Annika Hipple, Anjan Mukherjee, R. Eric Reuss, and Ilya Somin. The awards were presented on the annual Scholastic Awards Night on June 6.

GEE, ALL OF A SUDDEN I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT THIS COLLEGE THING... I MEAN, WHAT IF NOBODY LIKES ME?
WHAT IF THEY MAKE FUN OF MY LOOKS! MY PERSONALITY! MY SENIOR PROM PICTURES! MY BANANA SEAT HUFFY BIKE! MY GERBIL TOY COLLECTION! MY MICHAEL JACKSON POSTER!
WILL I BE OSTRACIZED BECAUSE I LIKE BRUSSELS SPROUTS? BECAUSE I DO CROSS-STITCH? BECAUSE I ENJOY WEARING TU-TU'S AND LIP-SYNCING TO FRANK SINATRA?
FORGET IT. I'LL HAVE TO FACE IT THAT I'M JUST TOO WEIRD TO GO TO COLLEGE. I WON'T FIT IN.
CLICK
THEN AGAIN, THERE'S GOTTA BE SOME PLACE FOR EVERYONE....

Girls' Tennis Reigns Supreme in Middlesex

by Seetha Ramnath

The Lexington High School girls' tennis team has exceeded all expectations, dominating the Middlesex League with an impressive 13-0 record. The Maids' most recent victories were close, as a result of injuries or absences of key varsity players. Nevertheless, the team fought off tough competition and eventually emerged as victor.

On Wednesday, May 15, the Maids travelled to Belmont without senior tri-captain and first singles star Petra Rydlova, who was battling a shoulder injury. Junior Seetha Ramnath replaced Rydlova at the first singles position, but quickly fell to Belmont's Tanya Crawley 0-6, 2-6.

At second singles, sophomore standout Jessica Van Nostrand overcame her Belmont competitor in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4. In doubles action, seniors Charlotte Woodbridge and Anjali Nagpaul whitewashed their counterparts 6-0, 6-0. At that point, the varsity score was 2-1 for Lexington, which meant that at least one of the remaining two matches had to be captured by Lexington to ensure a win.

Though they fought valiantly, senior Julia Thompson and junior Gina Coplon could not fend off Belmont's second doubles team and consequently lost a tough three-set match, 6-4, 3-6, 4-6. Attention then turned to the final match in which junior Alexis Baker, in the third singles position, finally overcame her opponent in another grueling three-setter, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (8-6).

Having recovered from a close encounter with Belmont, the Maids came roaring back after a weekend's rest to meet the Reading Rockettes. Rydlova, playing in her first match since her injury, fell to nationally ranked Keri Stakem 0-6, 0-1 (retired).

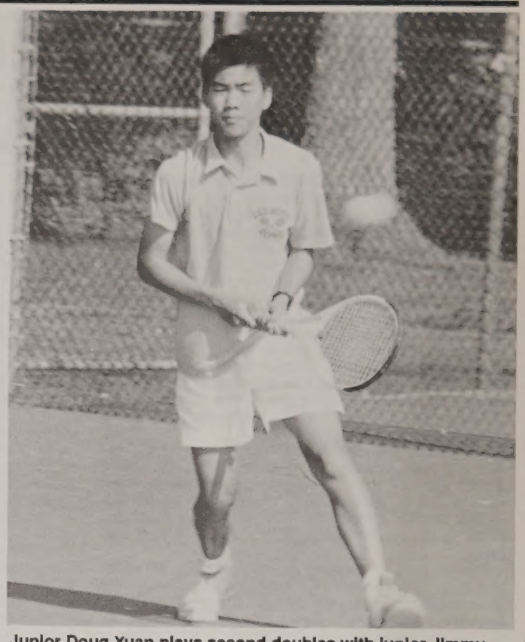
> "Everyone has pulled together and has been an integral part of this winning effort."
>
> —girls' tennis coach Ruth Kirschbaum

Again, Woodbridge and Nagpaul provided an easy 6-2, 6-0 win, which put Lexington on the board. Next to finish was the second doubles tandem of Baker and Keri Sarajian, who similarly disposed of their foes 6-2, 6-0.

Attention then turned to the second and third singles players Ramnath and Van Nostrand. Both players had won thier first sets, lost thier second sets, and were simultaneously battling their respective opponents fiercely. Though down 0-2 in the third set, Ramnath gained enough momentum to rally back and win her match 6-2, 3-6, 7-5, putting the Lexington team over the top. Just moments later Van Nostrand fell in a strenuous match 6-2, 4-6, 6-7 (2-7).

Coach Ruth Kirschbaum commented on the season, "We've worked very hard this season and it's paying off. I've made some coaching decisions that I hope have helped this effort. Everyone has pulled together and has been an integral part of this winning effort."

Lexington's first doubles team of Woodbridge and Nagpaul earned its way to the finals of the Northern Area MIAA State Individual Tournament. On their road to the finals, the two tri-captains uprooted two seeded teams and came very close to upsetting the infamous Concord-Carlisle team of Jennifer Markson and Beth Mattison. The final score was 1-6, 6-4, 4-6. Rydlova, Van Nostrand, Thompson and Coplon also participated in the tournament.



Junior Doug Yuan plays second doubles with junior Jimmy Ko. Boys' tennis advanced to the Massachusetts State Tennis Tournament. Photo by Jon Feldman

Senior sensation Petra Rydlova is first singles player for the Lexington High School girls' tennis team. *Musket* File Photo

Mass. State Tournament Berth for Boys' Tennis

by Rick Zeoli

The Lexington High School boys' tennis team continues to be among the Middlesex league leaders.

The Minutemen started the playoffs with a 7-2 record, and needed only one more win to secure a spot in the Massachusetts State Tennis Tournament. But the path was not an easy one, with four tough opponents left to face: Winchester, Burlington, Belmont, and Reading.

The Minutemen won the last match of the regular season with a dramatic 3-2 victory over the Burlington Devils, with victories from the three singles positions: senior co-captain Rick Zeoli at first singles, junior Nathaniel Zimmer at second, and sophomore Josh Plumb at third.

The doubles teams fared worse, with both senior co-captain Cameron Boyd and junior Justin Sweder at first doubles, and juniors Doug Yuan and Jimmy Ko at second, unable to overcome their opponents.

> The Minutemen finished the season with an 8-5 record, which qualified the team for the State Tournament.

This victory broke the Devils' winning streak of twenty-one straight league matches. Unforunately, the Minutemen's momentum wasn't enough to carry them through the playoffs, where two back-to-back losses to Winchester and Burlington put a dent in the team's confidence.

But the setback proved only temporary. Soon after, the Minutemen won a tough match against visiting Belmont.

Zimmer and the team of Boyd and Sweder were off the court quickly, giving Lexington a two-point advantage.

But Belmont took back one of the points by winning second doubles, making both first and third singles crucial to victory.

Plumb earned Lexington the victory by winning his third set, and Zeoli ensured the victory by winning a tough match in the final set, giving Lexington a four-to-one margin of victory.

Despite a loss to Reading the next day, the Minutemen still finished the season with an 8-5 record, which qualified the team for the State Tournament.

As of press time, the specifics of the tournament were not known.

It is expected that junior Nicola Koo, who has been out with an injury, will join Yuan at second doubles to begin the tournament.

Lady Runners Go 6-1-2

by Bernadine Tsung

Earning a decisive win against Burlington, the girls' track-and-field team finished up its season displaying much strength.

The Minutemaids were joined by the boys' team in a dual meet as they hosted and defeated Burlington in their last Middlesex League meet of the season.

This year's spring season was a rough one; the Maids reliquished their Middlessex League championship to the Stoneham Spartans.

The Spartans, who placed third after Lexington and Reading in last year's season standings, came back this year to overpower both teams in the field events and hold their ground in the running events.

Handicapped by being one of the smallest teams in the league, Lexington overcame the odds, finishing with a strong 6-1-2 record.

Competing with fewer than twenty athletes at most meets, the Maids often faced teams twice as large.

Senior Angela Marino said, "For the number of people we had, we were excellent." With six field events, nine running events and a limit of three events per person, Lexington's talent was often spread over several events.

Unable to place more than two competitors in many events, the girls were automatically forced to reliquish many third- and even second-place points.

Freshman Jen Geiger agreed,

> "The athletes we had were the best in the league, and we worked well together...We just didn't have enough [competitors]."
>
> —freshman Jen Geiger

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The Maids' strength in the league was evident during the end of the season league meet, in which the league's top competitors in each event faced off in individual competition.

Lexington, with more than two entrants in each event, placed first in most of the running events and several field events. Over the season, few athletes were disappointed with either their own or their teammates' performances.

Coach Ken Totas commented, "We were a strong team and a lot of people came through when we needed them to, but we just didn't have enough depth."

Sophomore Jane Cargill noted with a shrug, "A lot of the meets came down to the relays. Some we pulled through, others we didn't. Either way we gave it our best."

Members of the track team pointed toward their captains as a source of inspiration and support. With seniors Agnieszka Reiss, Angela Marino, Sarah Hutchinson and Shana Yansen cheering on their teammates in every event from distance, to field, to sprints and hurdling, no one was ever without encouragement.

Freshman Keri Joseph spoke for the team when she said, "I wish [the seniors] didn't have to leave, I'm really going to miss them next year."

Junior Jeff Dan grasps one of the hundreds of debate team trophies found throughout the school. Debate awards were given out on June 6 as part of the annual Scholastic Awards Night.

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